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1968

# ANNUAL REPORT
## ON THE HEALTH
OF THE
## COWES URBAN DISTRICT

BY

ALISON M. BATTEN
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health

# COWES, ISLE OF WIGHT

# URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

## THE ANNUAL REPORT

## of

## THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

including the Report of

## THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

## FOR THE YEAR 1968

.....

County Hall,
Newport,
Isle of Wight

Tel: Newport 4031

To the Members of the Cowes Urban District Council:

MR. CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILLORS

I have' the honour to submit the Annual Report on the health of the District for 1968.

The Birth Rate fell from 13.8 to 12.8. Out of 229 live births, 14 were illegitimate.

The Death Rate rose from 12.6 to 17.5

The Infant Mortality Rate rose slightly from 8.1 to 8.7

No cases of food poisoning, diphtheria or poliomyelitis were notified. Single deaths only from non-pulmonary tuberculosis and suicide were recorded during the year.

## Water Supplies

The water supplies have been satisfactory in quality and quantity. No contamination occurred.

The water is hard and not liable to be plumbo-solvent.

## Removal of persons in need of care and attention

No action was required this year under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948.

## Noise

This is not a new problem as many would have us believe. In town centres at any rate it is probable that noise today is less than it was a century ago - both in volume and duration. When streets were cobbled and the horse was the main motive power there must have been an endless clatter from the horses' hooves, the rattle of coach and cart wheels and the sound of work-peoples' clogs. Not only was there more noise but as working hours were much longer it would have started earlier and finished later.

I am sure the cries of street vendors were probably as aggravating as (and certainly more prolonged than) the chimes of ice-cream vans. What is different today is that it is almost impossible to get completely away from noise. Even in the heart of the countryside one can be assailed by the scream of jets or the roar of hovercraft.

Social Conditions

This heading has been omitted from the main body of this year's Report. I found that the description "These are unchanged since the last Report" had appeared in every Annual Report - unchanged and apparently unchallenged since 1932. In that year in Cowes it was stated that the main industries of the town were ship, yacht and aircraft building and repairing. Today the main industries are hovercraft manufacturing and electronics, both of which would probably have been considered as something more in the realms of science fiction in the year 1932. Other changes over the years I need hardly comment on.

Sewage

It does at the moment of writing look as if at long last this thorny question might be resolved as the consultant engineers will be looking in 1969 into the whole question of the sewerage of Cowes. Let us hope that the present uncertainties about the future of local government do not cause this problem once again to be shelved.

Acknowledgements

During the greater part of the year under review Dr. D.W. Quantrill acted as your Medical Officer of Health and I am sure you would wish me to thank him on your behalf for so willingly carrying out this extra duty.
I should also like to thank the Staff of the Public Health Department for their help and co-operation.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Councillors

Your obedient Servant

ALISON M. BATTEN
Medical Officer of Health

## PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health :-

JOHN MILLS, M.D., Ch.B., M.R.C.S(Eng)., L.R.C.P.(Lond)., D.P.H.

Died - 5th April, 1968

ALISON M. BATTEN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. - Appointed 1st October, 1968

Senior Public Health Inspector :-

P.G. WOODS, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. - Retired: 28th May, 1968

D.J. SULLIVAN, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. - Appointed: 1st May, 1968

Additional Public Health Inspector :-

E.H. EVANS, M.R.S.H. - Appointed: 1st May, 1968

Clerk :-

MRS. P.M. WHYTE - Resigned: 31st August, 1968

MISS J.A. SQUIBB - Appointed: 1st September, 1968

Rodent Operative :-

C.A.F. MORRIS

## GENERAL STATISTICS

| | |
|---|---|
| Area in acres ... ... ... ... ... | 5,542 |
| No. of inhabited houses (end of 1968) per rate books | 6,325 |
| Rateable value as at 1.4.68. .. ... ... | £655,525 |
| Sum represented by 1d. rate (1967-68) ... ... | £2,500 |

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

| | |
|---|---|
| Population (Registrar General's Figures) ... ... | 17,890 |
| Live birth rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population | 12.8 |
| Comparative factor (births) ... ... ... ... | 1.19 |
| Comparative Birth Rate ... ... ... ... ... | 15.2 |
| Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total (live & still) births ... | 17.2 |
| Crude death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ... ... ... ... | 17.5 |
| Comparative factor (deaths) ... ... ... ... | 0.85 |
| Comparative death rate ... ... ... ... ... | 14.9 |
| Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 total (live & still births) | 4.3 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Infantile Mortality :- | |
| All infants per 1,000 live births ... ... | 8.7 |
| Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births ... | 4.6 |
| Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births | 71.4 |
| Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ... ... ... ... | 50 |
| Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... ... ... | Nil |
| Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ... ... | Nil |

## BIRTHS

The total number of live births was 229 of which 215 were legitimate and 14 illegitimate. The live birth rate was 12.8 per 1,000 living: the birth rate for England and Wales being 16.9.

## INFANTILE MORTALITY

The Infantile Mortality rate was 8.7 per 1,000 registered live births, the rate for England and Wales being 18.3.

## DEATHS

The number of deaths was 313 giving a death rate of 17.5 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population. The corresponding rate for England and Wales was 11.9.

Under the Eighth Revision of the International Classification of Diseases deaths are now classified under a total of 65 headings. Certain causes of death attributed to Cowes residents only are given below. The nomenclature of certain categories has been amended from previous years to agree with the revised Classification.

| | Male | Female |
|---|---|---|
| Tuberculosis of respiratory system | - | - |
| Other forms of tuberculosis | 1 | - |
| Other infective and parasitic diseases | 2 | - |
| Meningococcal infection | 1 | - |
| Malignant neoplasm, stomach | 2 | 1 |
| " " lung, bronchus | 11 | 2 |
| " " breast | - | 4 |
| " " uterus | - | 2 |
| Leukaemia | 1 | - |
| Other malignant neoplasms, etc. | 19 | 9 |
| Benign and unspecified neoplasms | - | 1 |
| Diabetes mellitus | - | 1 |
| Other diseases of nervous system, etc. | 1 | - |
| Chronic rheumatic heart disease | - | 1 |
| Hypertensive disease | 3 | 5 |
| Ischaemic heart disease | 51 | 43 |
| Other forms of heart disease | 14 | 20 |
| Cerebrovascular disease | 22 | 23 |
| Other diseases of circulatory system | 6 | 3 |

| | Male | Female |
|---|---|---|
| Influenza | 3 | 5 |
| Pneumonia | 6 | 5 |
| Bronchitis and Emphysema | 13 | 5 |
| Asthma | 1 | - |
| Other diseases of respiratory system | 2 | - |
| Diseases of digestive system | 3 | 3 |
| Diseases of genito-urinary system | 3 | 2 |
| Abortion | - | 1 |
| Diseases of musculo-skeletal system | - | 2 |
| Congenital anomalies | - | 1 |
| Other causes of perinatal mortality | 1 | - |
| Symptoms and ill-defined conditions | - | 1 |
| Motor vehicle accidents | - | 1 |
| All other accidents | 2 | 2 |
| Suicide and self-inflicted injuries | - | 1 |
| All other external causes | 1 | - |
| ALL CAUSES | 169 | 144 |

## Notifications of Infectious Diseases Received During the Year 1968

| | Dysentery | Measles | Tuberculosis Pulmonary | Tuberculosis Non-Pul. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Under 2 years | - | - | - | - |
| 2 and under 3 | - | 2 | - | - |
| 3 " " 4 | - | 1 | - | - |
| 4 " " 5 | - | 2 | - | - |
| 5 " " 45 | - | - | - | - |
| 45 " " 55 | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| 55 " " 65 | - | - | 1 | - |
| 65 " " 75 | - | - | - | - |
| 75 years and over | 2 | - | - | - |
| TOTAL | 2 | 5 | 2 | 1 |

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE URBAN DISTRICT

Mr. P.G. Woods retired at the end of May after 11 years service with the Council and Mr. D.J. Sullivan was appointed to succeed him. Mr. E. Evans, lately of Ventnor Urban District Council, was appointed as additional Public Health Inspector.

No further progress was made with Slum Clearance during the year apart from one Closing Order, as other re-housing commitments took precedence.

It was not found necessary to resort to legal proceedings during the year.

## PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS IN THE AREA

These totals represent all inspections and other visits carried out by the Public Health Inspectors.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Number of dwelling houses inspected (first inspection) | ... | 1,171 |
| Number of dwelling houses inspected (Re-inspection) | ... | 1,324 |
| Other inspections (first inspection) | ... | 794 |
| Other inspections (re-inspection) | ... | 766 |
| Ineffectual visits | ... | 576 |
| | TOTAL - | 4,631 |

| NOTICES SERVED | Informal | Formal |
|---|---|---|
| Public Health Acts ... ... ... | 58 | 2 |
| Housing Act, 1957 (Section 9) ... | - | - |
| Housing Act, 1964 (Section 19) ... | - | - |
| Food Hygiene Regulations, 1960 made under Food and Drugs Act, 1955 ... | 8 | - |
| Factories Act, 1961 ... ... ... | 1 | - |
| Clean Air Act, 1956 ... ... ... | - | - |
| Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 ... ... ... | 5 | - |
| Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960 ... ... ... | 4 | - |
| Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 | - | - |
| Notices complied with ... ... | 75 | - |

LETTERS RE:

| | |
|---|---|
| Housing Management ... ... | 24 |
| Improvement Grants ... ... | 13 |

## DETAILS AND NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS

### PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

| | |
|---|---|
| Houses inspected for nuisances | 1,063 |
| Verminous premises | - |
| Other insects | 6 |
| Ponds, ditches and watercourses | 34 |
| Tents, vans, sheds, caravans | 218 |
| Animals, pigs, poultry | 10 |
| Dustbins | 4 |
| Accumulation of refuse | 58 |
| Drainage tested and inspected | 431 |
| Yards, passages, car parks | 4 |

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES

| | |
|---|---|
| Enquiries and collections | 13 |
| Food poisoning | 2 |

### FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS AND FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS

| | |
|---|---|
| Cafes and Restaurants | 204 |
| Butchers shops | 85 |
| Fish Shops | 9 |
| Fried fish shops | 13 |
| Greengrocers | 20 |
| Grocers | 83 |
| Bakehouses | 9 |
| Licensed premises | 70 |
| Wholesale meat premises | 23 |
| Ice-cream shops, premises and vehicles | 52 |
| Cooked meat shops | 3 |
| Other food premises | 11 |
| Unsound food | 69 |

### SAMPLING

| | |
|---|---|
| Ice-cream sampling | 40 |
| Water sampling | 32 |

### HOUSING ACTS

| | |
|---|---|
| 1964 - Section 19 Inspections | 8 |
| 1957 - Section 9 Inspections | 1 |
| 1957 - Section 16 Inspections | 2 |
| Overcrowding | - |
| Inspections re Clearance Areas | - |

### FACTORIES ACT

| | |
|---|---|
| Inspections and enquiries (Mechanical power) | 20 |
| Inspections and enquiries (Non-mechanical power) | 29 |

CLEAN AIR ACT

| | |
|---|---|
| Observation and visits ... ... ... ... | 23 |

SHOPS ACT

| | |
|---|---|
| Inspections and enquiries ... ... ... | 20 |

COUNCIL HOUSES

| | |
|---|---|
| Inspections ... ... ... ... ... | 135 |
| Housing applicants ... ... ... ... | 217 |
| Housing enquiries ... ... ... ... | 173 |
| Conditions of tenancy ... ... ... ... | 108 |

MISCELLANEOUS

| | |
|---|---|
| Holiday Camps, etc. ... ... ... ... | 25 |
| Public Conveniences ... ... ... ... | 3 |
| Rodent control ... ... ... ... ... | 5 |
| Visits to owners or builders ... ... ... | 314 |
| Bathing establishments ... ... ... | 40 |
| Searches (Land Registry) ... ... ... | 3 |
| Ineffectual visits ... ... ... ... | 508 |
| Improvement Grants ... ... ... ... | 183 |
| Pet Animals Act ... ... ... ... | 2 |
| Food Complaints ... ... ... ... | 19 |
| Fairs ... ... ... ... ... ... | - |
| Rent Act (including Certificates of Disrepair) | - |
| Heating appliances Regulations ... ... | - |
| Hairdressers Premises ... ... ... | 16 |
| Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act ... | 111 |
| Noise Abatement Act ... ... ... ... | 77 |
| Farms ... ... ... ... ... ... | - |
| Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles Regulations | 1 |
| Scrap Metal Dealers ... ... ... ... | - |
| Beaches ... ... ... ... ... ... | 2 |
| Schools ... ... ... ... ... ... | 4 |
| National Assistance Act ... ... ... | 1 |
| | 4631 |

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

The Public Health Inspectors continued their general duties of investigating complaints, securing the abatement of statutory nuisances and dealing with contraventions of the Public Health and other Acts. In this connection 793 complaints were received from members of the public.

Particulars of the various nuisances and defects remedied in properties totalling 473 are tabulated below :-

| | |
|---|---|
| Yard paving | 4 |
| Doors, windows, frames, floors, sashcords repaired | 40 |
| Grates flues, chimneys repaired | 8 |
| Gutters, roofs and rainwater pipes repaired | 72 |
| Defective and/or choked drains remedied | 66 |
| Water closets and flushing cisterns repaired or renewed | 13 |
| Accumulations of refuse removed | 2 |
| Wall and ceiling plasters repaired | 22 |
| Defective walls and pointing repaired | 18 |
| Dampness remedied | 17 |
| Septic tanks & cesspools emptied | 167 |
| Vermin eradicated | - |
| Decorations in food premises | 40 |
| Sinks | 2 |
| Water Services | 2 |

RODENT CONTROL

372 complaints of infestation by rodents were made to the Public Health Department during the year and the following inspections and treatments were carried out :-

| | Private Houses | Business Premises | | Council Owned Premises | | Agricultural Premises | | Sewer Treatments | Hospitals and Schools |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | C* | N/C* | D.H.* | O.P. | C* | N/C | | |
| Initial Visits: | | | | | | | | | |
| Rats | 435 | 149 | 161 | 49 | 87 | 36 | 31 | 52 | 13 |
| Mice | 81 | 67 | 30 | 17 | 2 | 3 | - | - | 13 |
| Totals | 516 | 216 | 191 | 66 | 89 | 39 | 31 | 52 | 26 |
| Re-visits: | | | | | | | | | |
| Rats | 1412 | 328 | 67 | 146 | 187 | 161 | 1 | 104 | 11 |
| Mice | 306 | 116 | 8 | 49 | 10 | 17 | - | - | 14 |
| Totals | 1718 | 444 | 75 | 195 | 197 | 178 | 1 | 104 | 25 |
| Grand Totals: | 2234 | 660 | 266 | 261 | 286 | 217 | 32 | 156 | 51 |

C* - Contract; N/C*- Non-Contract; D.H.*- Dwelling Houses;
O.P.* - Other Premises.

## VERMIN AND INSECT CONTROL

No charge is made by this Authority for general disinfestation services.

Four complaints of the presence of fleas in private houses were dealt with during the year and extermination of cockroaches and other beetles, woodlice, silverfish, ants, etc., totalled 57 cases.

Twenty-seven wasps nests were destroyed by the staff of the Department and a proprietary form of Sodium-Cyanide powder was used for the purpose.

## DRAINAGE

(a) General

431 inspections were made in connection with examination, testing and supervision of repairs and renewals of existing drainage.

(b) Public Sewers vested in the Local Authority

Section 24 of the Public Health Act, 1936 governs the procedure in connection with these combined drains and clearance of 14 stoppages in public sewers - draining 60 hourses - was carried out at the expense of the Local Authority.

## HOUSING

An abstract from the statement submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in the form of quarterly returns is summarised below :-

Housing Act, 1957

1. Houses demolished or closed

Demolished or closed as a result of formal or informal procedure :-

| | |
|---|---|
| Closed | 1 |
| Demolished | 8 |

2. Repairs

| | |
|---|---|
| Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during the year as a result of informal action under the Housing & Public Health Acts | 22 |

3. Public Health Acts. Formal Action

Houses in which defects ere remedied:-

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| (a) | By owners | 2 |
| (b) | By local Authorities in default of owners | Nil |

4. Housing Act, 1957. Formal Action

Houses in which defects were remedied:-

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| (a) | By owners | 1 |
| (b) | By local Authorities in default of owners | Nil |

COUNCIL HOUSING

The practice of dividing the administration of this work between the Clerk's Department and the Public Health Department continues as in previous years.

Six hundred and thirty-three visits and inspections were carried out in connection with all housing management matters delegated to the department. This figure included 243 inspections of houses to determine their condition of repair, overcrowding, decoration, observance of Conditions of Tenancy and whether the premises were maintained in a cleanly condition.

The Council's second block of flats for pensioners at Gordon Lodge, Victoria Grove, East Cowes, which it was hoped would be ready for occupation in the latter part of the year, were not in fact completed in 1968 owing to various delays.

The number of new houses built within the Urban District during the year was as follows:-

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Local Authority | ... | Nil |
| Housing Associations | ... | Nil |
| Private Enterprise | ... | 148 |

RENT ACT, 1957

No application was received for a Certificate of Disrepair during the year.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no registered Common Lodging Houses in this district.

## IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

The Council accepted one application for a Discretionary Grant which was approved.

49 applications for Standard Grants were also approved.

A break-down of the details of facilities provided during the year, not of the 49 newly approved applications, but of the work actually carried out as the result of 48 previous and current approvals, is appended:-

### Amenities provided

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| (a) | Fixed Bath | 40 |
| (b) | Shower | Nil |
| (c) | Wash-hand Basin | 43 |
| (d) | Hot water supply (to any fittings) | 48 |
| (e) | Water Closet (1) within the dwelling | 37 |
| | (2) accessible from the dwelling | Nil |
| (f) | Food store | 41 |

The following payments were made during the year:-

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Discretionary Grants paid: | Nil | Total Cost: | Nil |
| Standard Grants paid: | 48 | Total Cost: | £5,360. 10s. 10d. |

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD PREMISES

The number of premises subject to the provisions of the Food Hygiene Regulations is appended, all of which, with the exception of Confectionary (sweets) shops where Regulation 19 is not applicable, are fitted to comply with Regulations 16 and 19 of the 1960 Regulations:-

| | |
|---|---|
| Cafes, Restaurants, Kiosks, Canteens | 39 |
| Butchers shops | 17 |
| Fishmongers, poulterers and fried fish shops | 9 |
| Greengrocers and fruiterers | 17 |
| Grocers | 60 |
| Bakehouses, bakers and confectioners | 10 |
| Cooked meat shops | 5 |
| Licensed premises | 37 |
| Meat storate depots | 4 |
| Hotels and clubs | 20 |
| Confectioners (sweets) | 23 |

651 visits and inspections were made of these food premises.

The following items included in informal notices, indicate the defects and contraventions found as a result of the original inpsections.

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of notices served | 11 |
| Defects and contraventions specified in notices:- | |
| Artificial lighting | - |
| Hot water supplies installed | 3 |
| Decorations | 19 |
| Cleansing | 3 |
| New sinks installed | 2 |
| Dustbin provided | 3 |
| Water closets and/or flushing cisterns repaired or renewed | 2 |
| Accumulations of refuse removed | 2 |
| Wall and ceiling plasters repaired | 4 |
| Wash-hand basins installed | - |
| Protection of food | 2 |

POULTRY INSPECTION

There is only one processing establishment in this area, which produces approximately 600 turkeys for the Christmas trade.

The birds are bought as "poults" in late August or early September.

Although the birds are killed - by neck-wringing - on the farm, all evisceration and dressing is done at one of the producer's local shops at which all facilities required by the Food Hygiene Regulations are available.

Twenty visits were made to the farm during the development of the stock and to the shop during the time of being prepared for sale.

No birds were rejected as being unfit for human consumption at or after the time of slaughter.

UNSOUND FOOD

The amounts of various foods which were condemned as unfit for human consumption and voluntarily surrendered during the year under review are given below:-

| | |
|---|---|
| Tins and jars of fish, fruit, vegetables, milk and cooked meats, to a total weight of: ... ... | 9 cwt. 3 qrs.Ost.13 lbs.6 ozs. |
| Sugar ... ... | 2 cwt. 0 qrs. Ost. 12 lbs.0 ozs |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Biscuits | | | | 8-ozs. |
| Margarine | | 3 qrs. | 0st. | 12-lbs 0-ozs. |
| Butter | | 2 qrs. | 0st. | 13-lbs.0-ozs. |
| Lard | | | | 13-lbs.0-ozs. |
| Flour | 1 cwt. | 0 qrs. | 1st | 3-lbs 0-ozs. |
| Cereals | 1 cwt. | 3 qrs. | 0st. | 8-lbs 0-ozs. |
| Bread | | | | 4-lbs 0-ozs. |
| Fish | | | | 3-lbs 0-ozs. |
| Frozen Foods | 7 cwt. | 0 qrs. | 1st. | 8-lbs 0-ozs. |
| Meat and offal | 8 cwt. | 0 qrs. | 0st. | 5-lbs 0-ozs. |
| GRAND TOTAL | 1 ton 11 cwt. | 3 qrs. | 0st. | 10-lbs 14-ozs |

Apart from the usual number of electrical faults in refrigeration plants there was considerable damage due to flooding in a multiple store during a very severe rainstorm.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

(a) MILK

There are 60 registered milk dealers and 5 Dairies in the District.

Samples of milk were taken during the year from herds whose milk is retailed raw without heat treatment. These samples were examined at the Public Health Laboratory, Portsmouth, for the presence of live Tubercle Bacilli.

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of samples taken for T.B. during 1968 | 67 |
| Number of samples found to be positive | - |
| Number of samples found to be negative | 67 |
| Number of samples in which Brucella Abortus was isolated | - |

ICE CREAM

The number of premises registerd in this district for the manufacture, storate and sale of ice-cream is 112 although there are now no actual manufacturers.

Five new registrations were made during 1968.

Forty samples of ice-cream were taken for bacteriological examination, the results of which were as follows:-

| | |
|---|---|
| Grade I | 31 samples |
| Grade II | 6 samples |
| Grade III | 2 samples |
| Grade IV | 1 sample |

Samples falling within Grades I and II are accepted as satisfactory. The one Grade IV and the two Grade III results were from soft ice machines from two different vendors. In one case suspicion fell upon an old tube of edible grease, and the use of a new tube produced satisfactory results. The other case was traced back to faulty supplies from the manufacturer, and subsequent samples were of a good standard.

FOOD COMPLAINTS

Five complaints of food alleged to be unfit for human consumption were received during the year.

Two complaints were found to be unjustified and no action was taken.

The other complaints were as follows:-

1) Black substance in cake baked at a local bakery:

The black substance referred to was found to be burnt grease from a baking tin, and a verbal warning was given to the baker.

2) Mould Growth on Pork Pie

Slight mould growth was found on a pork pie bought at a multiple store. The whole of the stock was examined and only one other pie was found with the same identification mark. This other pie was sound, as was all the stock in the premises.

It was probable that these two pies had not been exchanged for fresh ones by the supplier, who is responsible for the stock rotation by arrangement with the retailer.

A warning letter was sent to the suppliers and their representatives made a thorough investigation of the matter and expressed their concern and regret.

3) Wrapped Loaf found to be fermenting

A wrapped loaf bought locally but supplied by a large mainland concern was found to be still fermenting in the centre. All the remaining loaves in the consignment were found to be sound, but apparently some other loaves delivered elsewhere were similarly affected. The suppliers were at a loss to explain the condition, but concluded that a small portion of the yeast used in the baking had acted in an abnormal manner.

## FOOD POISONING

No case of Food Poisoning was notified during the year.

## SHOPS ACT, 1950

There are now 323 registered shops in this district.

Twenty inspections were made under the Act which included evening and Sunday observations in connection with "Closing Hours." In this particular connection the Local Authority exercises delegated powers from the Isle of Wight County Council.

On no occasion was it found necessary to serve a notice for any contravention of the Act.

## OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Appended is an extract from the Annual Report supplied to the Department of Employment and Productivity.

| | No.of Premises Registered during the year | No. of Registered Premises at end of year | No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year | No. of persons employed |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Offices | 1 | 45 | 6 | 248 |
| Retail shops | 3 | 149 | 68 | 486 |
| Wholesale shops, Warehouses | - | 8 | 1 | - |
| Catering establishments open to the public, canteens | - | 22 | 42 | 107 |
| Fuel storage depots | - | 3 | - | - |
| Total | 4 | 227 | 117 | 865 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Total no. of persons employed : | Males: | 336 |
| | Females: | 535 |
| Total no. of visits by inspectors to registered premises under the Act : | | 228 |

All the ten informal notices served during the year were promptly complied with.

Two minor accidents were reported, not necessitating formal action.

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WATER SUPPLY

The mains water supply to the Cowes area is derived from the Isle of Wight River and Water Authority an authority upon which all local authorities on the Island are represented.

The sources of this supply remain unchanged, from the wells and boreholes in the chalk and green sand at Carisbrooke and the Bowcombe Valley, supplemented by approximately 20% per day from the local deep well at Broadfields Pumping Station. The Broadfields Reservoir, previously fed entirely from this deep well, is supplemented by a piped supply of water from Newport.

Analyses of local water supplies show no evidence of plumbo-solvent action and no special precautions are therefore necessary. There is a natural fluoride content of rather less than .1 part per million.

There are 6,325 dwelling houses in the area with an estimated population of 18,000 all of which are supplied from the mains.

Samples for bacteriological examination are taken regularly by the staff of the Water Authority and results sent to the Public Health Department. Where considered necessary check samples are arranged or taken by the Public Health Inspectors. The source of the supplied to the sub-areas included in the following table is subject to variation. The results of the 115 samples taken were :-

/cont.over....

| | Satis-factory | Sus-picious | Unsatis-factory | TOTAL |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| West Cowes | | | | |
| Broadfields Well | 13 | - | - | 13 |
| Broadfields Reservoir | 4 | 5 | 4 | 13 |
| Low Level Area | 13 | - | - | 13 |
| Tower Area | 16 | - | - | 16 |
| Newport Direct Supply | 16 | - | - | 16 |
| East Cowes | | | | |
| Newport Direct Supply | 42 | 1 | 1 | 44 |

Of 112 samples taken from consumers' taps, five were classified as unsatisfactory but subsequent check samples all produced satisfactory results.

## SWIMMING AND PADDLING POOLS

There are no swimming pools in the district open to the general public. An open air pool in the grounds of a holiday camp is in continuous use by camp visitors during the holiday season, and for swimming instruction by two schools by special arrangement. A children's paddling pool adjoins the swimming pool. Samples taken during the summer, totalling 13 in all, reflected the efficiency of the plant maintenance. Two samples taken in windy conditions giving not completely satisfactory results demonstrated the difficulty of coping with dust contamination.

The paddling pool at a caravan camp produced 4 good samples and one slightly contaminated, the latter being taken on the same windy day mentioned above.

The indoor swimming pool at a local school functioned satisfactorily from May to October, and the five samples taken were all satisfactory.

The Council's paddling pool on East Cowes Esplanade, in which the sea water is hand chlorinated daily with hypochlorite solution, had three satisfactory reports and one slight contamination on the windy day mentioned above.

## CARAVAN SITES

There are five licensed Caravan Sites in the area, three at West Cowes and two at East Cowes. The permitted number of caravans on these sites is 175.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Local Authorities or "District Councils" as they are termed under the Factories Act, 1937, are responsible for administering the provisions relating to :-

Sanitary conveniences in all types of factories;

Cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature and ventilation in non-mechanical power factories; and

Homework (Outworkers) - Conditions of premises in relation to health of outworkers.

A summary of the information required by the Department of Employment and Productivity is tabulated below :-

Part I of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

| Premises | Number on Register | Number of | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | Inspections | Written Notices |
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities | 2 | - | - |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority | 66 | 28 | 2 |
| (iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises) | 2 | - | - |
| TOTAL: | 70 | 28 | 2 |

2. Cases in which defects were found (if defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

| Particulars | Number of cases in which defects were found | | Referred by H.M. Inspector |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Found | Remedied | |
| Want of cleanliness | 4 | 4 | - |
| Unreasonable temperature (S.3) | - | - | - |
| Inadequate ventilation (S.4) | - | - | - |
| Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) | | | |
| (a) Insufficient | - | - | - |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective | 4 | 4 | 1 |
| (c) Not separate for sexes | - | - | - |
| Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) | - | - | - |
| TOTAL: | 8 | 8 | 1 |

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork (Section 110 and 111)

Number of outworkers in August list as required by Section 110(1)(c)(2)

| | |
|---|---|
| Lampshades | 94 |
| Other class of work | 3 |
| TOTAL: | 97 |

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